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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

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SUBJECT Soviet T/O & E, Weapons, and Equipment

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SOVIET T/O & E, WEAPONS, AND EQUIPMENT

A. SOVIET ARMY T/O & E

1. The army T/O & E given in this report is [redacted] on [redacted] the Senior MGB Border Guard Troops Officers' School in MOSCOW (See Encl A). This does not preclude the existence of other units and equipment.

2. [redacted] no information on Soviet Army units T/O except as given in Encl A.

3. Weapons known [redacted] included the Nagant revolver, TT pistol, MM 1891 rifle, M-1946 carbine, PPSH SMG, LMG, and Maxim and Goryunov HMGs. [redacted]

a. New T-61 Tank

The tank, first manufactured in 1951 or 1952, was not yet in use. It was to replace the JS tank. [redacted]

[redacted] it was a heavy, very powerful tank. Its gun, caliber unknown, had a higher cyclic rate, a longer range, and greater accuracy and penetration than any other tank gun. The tank itself had heavier armor plating than other tanks. [redacted]

[redacted] a shell from the 85-mm gun of a T-34/85 tank would only dent but not penetrate the T-61 tank. A shell from the gun of a T-61 tank, however, would penetrate the armor of another T-61 tank. This tank was not employed in Korea or elsewhere, but went through a series of technical tests in 1951-1952. It proved itself in tests to be superior to US tanks captured in Korea, to the German Tiger tanks, and the JS tanks.

b. New Rifles and Carbines

[redacted] in KUSHKA (3516N-6224E) [redacted] new rifles and carbines were issued to the troops. The new weapons were Top Secret. When going out of the barracks for target practice, the rifles were concealed in canvas covers. [redacted]

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C. STRENGTH, ORGANIZATION AND T/O & E OF BORDER GUARD TROOPS, AFTER WORLD WAR II

1. Strength

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2. Organization

Border Guard Troops consisted primarily of land-based personnel. However, they also had Maritime Border Guards and Air Units. The land-based troops were not subdivided into infantry, cavalry, signal, engineer or medical branches.

Most of the Border Guard Troops EM were employed in actual patrolling of the border. Those who constructed, maintained and serviced the border observation towers, telegraph lines, telephones, radio stations and electrical devices attended a special school. They were Border Guard Troops with special signal or engineer training, but they were not a separate signal or engineer corps or branch. The same applied to blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, drivers, mess personnel and supply people. They were part of the Border Guard Troops, but not of a separate QM or ordnance branch.

Wherever terrain conditions made it necessary, Border Guard Troops were mounted on horses. They could also use bicycles, motorcycles, vehicles, sleds and snowshoes, aircraft and boats.

a. Maritime Border Troops

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b. Air Units

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the Turkmen
Border District had an u/1 Air Regt, stationed in MARY (3763N-6150E).

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This regiment had a T/O of 31 planes. This included three squadrons of 10 planes each and one plane for the regimental CO. Each squadron had three flights (Zveno), each of three PO-2 one-seater planes, and one PO-2 plane for the squadron CO. However, the actual strength of planes in the regiment was about 20 planes.

the u/1 Air
Regiment was part of the Border Guard Troops of the Turkmen Border District.

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A border district had as chief of its political department a general major or a colonel, but never a lower ranking officer. The department included three to four officers (lieutenant colonel to captain) and two to three EM in the MARX-LENIN Indoctrination Sec; three to five officers (lieutenant colonel to captain) and two to three EM in the Propaganda and Agitation Sec; five to seven officers (lieutenant colonel to captain) and two to three EM in the Cultural-Enlightenment Sec; one officer (major) and two EM in the Personnel Sec; one officer (colonel or lieutenant colonel) as Secretary of the Party Commission aided by one EM; one to two officers (captain or senior lieutenant) as Komsomol Officers aided by one to two EM; and one officer (captain) and one EM in the Party Bureau Secretariat.

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3. Changes in Border Guard Troops T/O After World War II

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Before WW II a battalion had only a training reserve company (Uchebnaya Reservnaya Zastava) of about 50 officers and EM. During WW II it had no uniform T/O. In 1945, the training reserve company changed to a service and supply company of 55-65 officers and EM. A new reserve (emergency) company of 50-60 officers and EM was activated.

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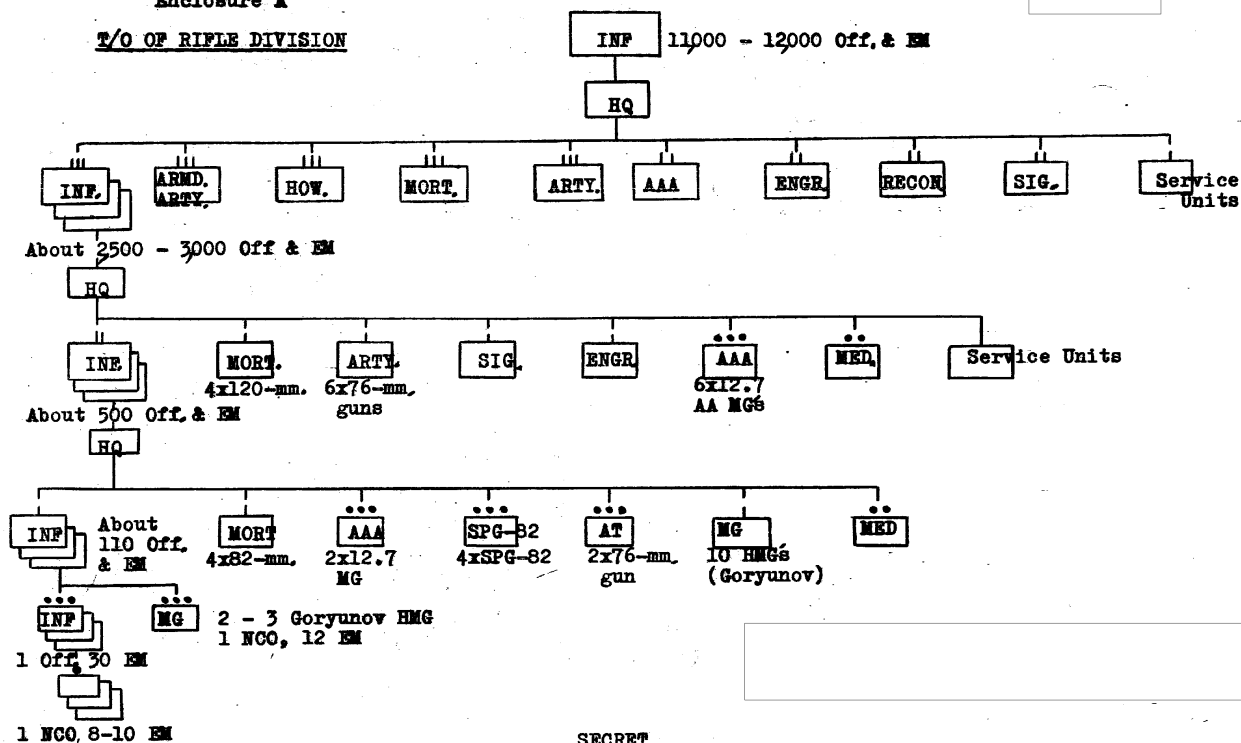
1 Encl:

Encl A. T/O of a Rifle Division

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Enclosure A
T/O OF RIFLE DIVISION



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